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PRESS RELEASE

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Tips for a smooth move this summer

Heidelberg, GE – The Installation Management Agency – Europe is gearing up for the high volume of Soldiers and families leaving and entering Europe this summer and have provided tips on how to make the shipment of household goods go smoothly.

The IMA-EURO Logistics Division Transportation Office is expecting a busier-than-usual Permanent Change of Station (PCS) cycle and recommends the following:

- Contact your local transportation office about 45-days before you would like to move. Don't wait until the last minute. If you get your orders with less than 45-days, go to the transportation office as soon as you receive them.
- Try to remain flexible with your household goods pick-up dates. In addition to requesting a specific date, make plans for some alternate dates and be prepared to accept them. In a normal PCS season, you could almost always get the pick-up date that you wanted. That may not be possible this summer.
- Look out for your fellow Army families. If you want to report early to your next duty station, you may be asked to defer your pick-up until a later date to make room for a family that must leave earlier. Consider this request carefully unless you have a compelling reason to report to your next duty station early.

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- Get a confirmed household goods pick-up date before you make other plans. Don't book your airplane tickets to your next duty station and hold off making your vacation plans until you know when your goods will be picked up. Remember, you may not get the pick-up date that you were expecting, and that might force you to change your travel plans.
- Be prepared to wait a little longer for your goods to be delivered once you arrive at your next duty station. It's projected that this summer's challenges will be experienced worldwide.

For additional information please contact the transportation office at your local community.

As an added source of information, AFN-AM Radio will conduct an "Open Line" call-in program April 12 at 9:05 a.m., offering the latest moving information from IMA-EURO logistics experts. You can phone in your questions during the show to DSN 389-4590 (civilian 0621-46085-590) or e-mail them in advance to openline@afne.army.mil.

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The U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, Europe (IMA-E) is one of seven regional offices created Oct. 1, 2002, as part of an Army-wide initiative to focus management of Army installations around the world under one organization. IMA-E is responsible for all facets of support for U.S. Army Soldiers and families in Europe from drivers licenses to child care to force protection. As the landlord for all U.S. Army facilities in Europe, IMA-E is responsible for infrastructure and continuing the Army's strong commitment to environmental protection. Its higher headquarters is located in Arlington, Va.